GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – E.F.S. & T. Department - Disciplinary proceedings initiated against Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.), formerly worked at Kokkanti Beat of Kadiri Range of Ananthapuramu (T) Division, under Rule 20 of A.P. Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 read with Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980 – Inquiry conducted - Imposition of penalty of "Ten percent (10%) cut in pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of Rs.6,06,263/- including penal interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.I) Dept., dated 09.02.2006" against the Charged Officer Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.) - Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE& TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 29 **Dated: 16-04-2025**

Read the following:-

1)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Guntur, Letter.Ref.No.33332/2013/A&DC-1(vii), dated 17.01.2023.
2)Govt. Memo.No.203/Sec.IV/A1/2023, E.F.S. & T. (Sec.IV) Department, dated 21.02.2024.
3)Written representation of Sri U.Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.) received through Letter Ref.No.33332/2013/A&DC- 1, dated 31.07.2024 of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Mangalagiri.

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ORDER:

In the letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Guntur has informed that, the following Article of Charge was issued to Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer, formerly worked at Kadiri Range of Ananthapuram (T) Division, by the Divisional Forest Officer, Ananthapuram in Rc.No.389/2013/G4, dated 02.11.2016, under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991:-

Article:*"That Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, FBO has grossly neglected his legitimate duties and failed in execution of works in Kokkanti Beat of Kadiri Range during the year 2012-13 which resulted in mis-appropriation of Government funds total worth of Rs.10,92,373/- finally lead to booking of expenditure without execution of works in the field by submitting false and fabricated vouchers, M. Books and cash book in violation of Article 5, 273, 294, 300, 301 and 302 of the Andhra Pradesh Financial Code".*

2. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of the Articles of Charge on 09.11.2016 and submitted his written statement of defense on 13.12.2016. Not satisfying with the explanation of the Charged Officer, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has appointed the Conservator of Forests, Ananthapuram Circle as Common Inquiry Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer, Ananthapuram Division as Presenting Officer, respectively, vide Proc.No.33332/2013/Vig-1(i&ii), dated 31.05.2018, for conducting the regular inquiry.

3. The Inquiry Officer & Conservator of Forests, Ananthapuram Circle has completed the inquiry and submitted the findings vide Rc.No.1700/2013/M2, dated 30.08.2019, wherein the Inquiry Officer concluded that the charge framed against the Charged Officer was held proved beyond any doubt.

P.T.O.

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has communicated the findings of the Inquiry Officer to the Charged Officer in Ref.No.33332/2013/A&DC-1(i), dated 18.11.2019, for submission of his written representation. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of the Final Notice on 03.12.2019 and submitted his written representation dated 18.12.2019.

5. The disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980, since the Charged Officer has retired from Government Service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.09.2018.

6. After careful examination of the matter keeping in view of the findings of Inquiry Officer, Government have taken a provisional decision to impose a penalty of "Withholding of entire pension" against Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.), as per the orders issued in G.O.Ms.No.664, Finance Department, dated 07.10.2004, because the charge of "misappropriation of Government funds" against him is proved beyond any doubt, besides recovery of Rs.6,06,263/- including penal interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.I) Department, dated 09.02.2006. Accordingly, in the Govt. Memo. 2nd read above, a Show-cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer with a direction to submit his written representation if any, on the proposed penalty to be imposed against him. The Charged Officer has submitted his written representation received through reference 3rd read above wherein, he has requested to cancel the proposed punishment of withholding of entire pension against him and to release the pension and pensionary benefits to him.

7. After careful examination of the entire matter, Government have decided to impose a penalty of "Ten percent (10%) cut in pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of Rs.6,06,263/- including penal interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.I) Dept., dated 09.02.2006" against the Charged Officer Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.), formerly worked at Kokkanti Beat of Kadiri Range of Ananthapuramu (T) Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, Government hereby order to impose a penalty of "Ten percent (10%) cut in pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of Rs.6,06,263/- including penal interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.I) Dept., dated 09.02.2006" against the Charged Officer Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.), formerly worked at Kokkanti Beat of Kadiri Range of Ananthapuramu (T) Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

8. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Mangalagiri shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G.ANANTHA RAMU
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri U. Pandu Ranga Swamy, Forest Beat Officer (Retd.), formerly worked at Kokkanti Beat of Kadiri Range of Ananthapuramu (T) Division through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, A.P., Mangalagiri.

Copy to:

The Accountant General (A&E), Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
The Secretary to A.P. Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi
SF/SC (Computer No.1990664).

//FORWARDED ::BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER